

For immediate release

The Indiana Department of Correction Welcomes Shadow Minister Herbert and Chief Of Staff Gibbs from the United Kingdom

Indianapolis, Indiana (September 22, 2008)—On Thursday, September 19 and Friday, September 20, 2008, Indiana Department of Correction (IDOC) Commissioner Edwin G. Buss and his staff welcomed a Member of the British Parliament, Shadow Minister Nicholas Herbert and his Chief of Staff, Blair Gibbs.

Shadow Minister Herbert and staff visited several IDOC facilities for the opportunity to gain insight on Indiana's correctional system and the various programs available to assist in the reintegration of adult offenders back into society. A shadow minister is a member of a parliamentary opposition party who is assigned to act as the counterpart of a corresponding Government minister, studying and enunciating alternative interpretations of that minister's portfolio.

The Superintendents at the Reception and Diagnostic Center, Plainfield Re-Entry Educational Facility, Correctional Industrial Facility, and Pendleton Juvenile Correctional Facility each gave the Shadow Minister an overview of their facility, touching on its history, offender population, jobs and programs offered to its offenders.



Commissioner Buss and PREF Superintendent Mike Lloyd show Shadow Minister Herbert around PREF.

IDOC Commissioner Buss commented, “We are greatly honored to have the privilege of hosting such a distinguished visitor as Shadow Minister Herbert. The experience provided a unique opportunity for the Indiana Department of Correction to showcase its facilities and programs, and provided my staff and me with insight on correctional services in another jurisdiction.”



CIF Superintendent Tom Hanlon, Shadow Minister Herbert, and Chief of Staff Gibbs look on as an offender in the FIDO (Faith+Inmate+Dog=Opportunity) program trains his dog.

About the Department of Correction

The Department employs over 8,000 employees and houses 24,000 adult and juveniles in 32 facilities, ranging from minimum to maximum custody, prison camps, juvenile facilities and work release centers. The Department’s home page on the Internet can be found at:

<http://www.in.gov/idoc>. The Department’s Re-entry Site can be found:

<http://www.reentry.in.gov>.

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